(b) and (c) Barren & uncultivable land in the country has decreased from 38.16 million ha. in 1950-51 to 17.44 million ha. in 2006-07.

(d) Government is implementing various watershed development programmes namely (i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA) (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR) (iii) Reclamation and Development of Alkali and Acid Soil (RADAS) (iv) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA) (v) Watershed Development Fund (WDF) (vi) Externally Aided Projects (EAPs) (vii) Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) and (viii) National Afforastation & Eco-Development Project (NAEP) through different Ministries in the country for management and development of the degraded lands.

(e) Agricultural production has increased in the country in the recent years.

(f) Government is implementing National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for boosting the agriculture production in the country including such areas.

Implementation of irrigation projects

712. SHRI D. RAJA:
SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only one third of our cultivable land is irrigated at present; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what effective steps are proposed to be taken to implement various irrigation projects within a time bound programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) During 2006-07, 33,3% of the total Cultivable Land at all India level was irrigated.

(b) The details of State-wise Cultivable land, Net Irrigated land, Percentage of Net Irrigated land for the Year 2006-07 is given in the enclosed Statement. (*See* below)

Financial assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) is extended to States for creation of irrigation potential by completion of identified ongoing irrigation projects. 265 major/ medium irrigation projects and 9852 surface water minor irrigation schemes have been . included under AIBP. Out of these, 100 major/ medium irrigation projects and 5805 surface water minor irrigation schemes have been completed up to 31st March, 2009.

The AIBP is also meeting the demands of the Bharat Nirman programme under which a major thrust on irrigation is included.

38 projects of the 65 major/ medium projects of the Prime Minister's relief package for agrarian distressed districts of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra received financial assistance under AIBP upto March, 2009.

Statement

Details of State-wise Cultivable land, Net Irrigated land, Percentage of Net Irrigated land for the Year 2006-07

(Thousand Hectares)

State/ Union Territory/ Year	Cultivable Land	Net Irrigated Area	Percentage of Net Irrigated Area over Cultivable Land
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	15911	4453	28.0
Arunachal Pradesh	422	52	12.3
Assam	3224	140	4.3
Bihar	6638	3161	47.6
Chhattisgarh	5581	1282	23.0
Goa	197	24	12.0
Gujarat	12412	3388	27.3
Haryana	3782	2990	79.1
Himachal Pradesh	813	104	12.8
Jammu & Kashmir	1048	309	29.5
Jharkhand	4184	164	3.9
Karnataka	12894	2946	22.9
Kerala	2329	392	16.8
Madhya Pradesh	17312	6365	36.8
Maharashtra	21162	2951	13.9
Manipur	231	51	22.2
Meghalaya	1057	67	6.3
Mizoram	213	16	7.7
Nagaland	657	65	9.8
Orissa	7473	1846	24.7
Punjab	4270	4028	94.3
Rajasthan	25600	6496	25.4
Sikkim	155	9	5.6
Tamil Nadu	8148	2889	35.5
Tripura	310	61	19.7

1	2	3	4
Uttarakhand	1504	343	22.8
Uttar Pradesh	19268	13080	67.9
West Bengal	5751	3136	54.5
A & N Island	47	0	0.0
Chandigarh	2	1	61.5
D & N Haveli	24	7	30.5
Daman & Diu	3	0	0.0
Delhi	54	24	44.8
Lakshadweep	3	1	28.9
Pondicherry	31	18	57.8
ALL INDIA :	182708	60857	33.3

NOTE: '0' relates to the area less than 500 Hectares.

Sustainable Utilization of Marine Resources

713. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of a U.K. Government's well articulated document "Fisheries 2007 - A long-term vision for sustainable Fisheries"; and

(b) if so, whether our future fisheries policy would keep in mind inputs like (i) balance on economic, social and environmental priorities (ii) identify the roles and responsibilities of different stake holders in achieving sustainability, and (iii) a realistic cost and benefit profile, as the need of the hour is for sustainable utilization of India's vast marine resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has notified the comprehensive Marine Fishing Policy in November, 2004 with a focus on sustainable development of Coastal and Deep-sea Fisheries with a view to achieve harmonized development of marine fishery resources of the country. The objectives of the Comprehensive Marine Fishing Policy are (i) to augment marine fish production of the country up to the sustainable level in a responsible manner so as to boost export of sea food from the country and also to increase per capita fish protein intake of the masses, (ii) to ensure socio-economic security of the artisanal fishermen whose livelihood solely depends on this vocation, and (iii) to ensure sustainable development of marine fisheries with due concern for ecological integrity and bio-diversity. These objectives are incorporated in the schemes and projects undertaken by the Government.

Growth of Pulses

714. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: